GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2341
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
WORKERS IN RETAIL SECTOR
Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of work force employed at present in the Retail Sector;

(b) the number of workers engaged by type of enterprises in the organised and unorganised Retail Sector, separately, State-wise;

(c) whether the self-employment in this Sector is increasing;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to give easy credit facility to small and medium retailer; and

(f) if so, the details of scheme prepared by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey, for which results are available, was conducted during 2004-05. Estimated number of the work force employed in the retail trade (except of motor vehicles and motor cycles, repair of personal and house hold goods) as per usual status basis was estimated to be of the order of 33.51 million during 2004-05.

(b) State-wise percentage of work force employed in trade, hotels & restaurant (industry division 50 to 55) as per usual status basis during 2004-05 is given at annex.

(c) &(d) Estimated number of workers engaged in self employment for the economy as a whole has gone up from 21.0 crore in 1999-2000 to 26.1 crore in 2004-05.

(e) & (f) There is no such proposal to give easy credit facility to small and medium retailers. However, all Scheduled Commercial Banks including Public Sector Banks have been advised to fix their own targets to achieve a minimum 20% year-on-year growth in credit to the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) sector.